STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

POPULATION AND VITAL STADISTICS FOR SIX MONTHS JAN.-JUNE, 1931.

POPULATION OF STATE. 31st March 1931. Total 582,934; Males 300,840; Females 282,094. Metropolitan Area 31st December, 1930, Total 324,420.

NATURAL INCREASE. The excess of births over deaths for the six months was 2,484 (2,570), a decrease of 86 and 652 less than the mean of the similar periods 1926 to 1930.

BIRTHS. 4,745 (5,034) were registered being 289 less than for the same period in 1930 and 822 less than the five years mean for the same period 1926 to 1930.

EX-NUPTIAL BIRTHS. 141 (157).

CASES OF MULTIPLE BIRTHS. Twins 47 (50), Triplets - (-).

MARRIAGES. The marriages celebrated numbered 1,483 (1,812) a decrease of 329 and 597 fewer than the mean of the similar five periods 1926-1930. Civil Marriages increased 161 (153).

DEATHS. The deaths registered numbered 2,261 (2,464) being a decrease of 203 and 170 less than the mean of the similar five periods 1926-1930.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATHS. (Table 6). Cancer 351 (292), Diseases of Heart 363 (278), Cerebral Haemorrhage and Softening 200 (209), Accidents 98 (178), Senility 107 (177), Pulmonary Tuberculosis 146 (138), Congenital Debility, Malformations, &c. 110 (133), Nephritis, Acute and Chronic 117 (123), Diarrhoea and Enteritis 34 (97), Pneumonia 128 (131), Whooping Cough 5 (26), Puerperal Causes 22 (29), Diabetes Mellitus 28 (47), Suicides 28 (27).

DEATHS FROM ACCIDENTS. For the six months 98 (178) deaths were attributed to Accidents, the chief being - Drowning 11 (31), Automobiles 19 (31), Railway 4 (5), Other Vehicles 4 (2), Excessive Heat 1 (28), Injury from Falls 32 (22), Aeroplanes - (5).

INFANTILE DEATHS. NO. & CAUSES. 166 (259) deaths were recorded, being 93 less than for the same period in 1930 and 104 less than the mean of the similar five periods 1926-1930. The rate of infantile mortality per 1000 births was only 35, a substantial decrease on the record low rate of 43.5 for the year 1929. The principal causes were - Whooping Cough 3 (12), Broncho Pneumonia and Pneumonia 12 (25). Diarrhoea and Enteritis 12 (47), Malformations 20 (22), Congenital Debility &c. 11 (30), Premature Births 63 (57), Other diseases of early infancy 15 (16), and all other causes 30 (50), total . 166 (259).

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED. (Table 5). Substantial decreases in the number of cases during the six months are noted for Whooping Cough 269 (1,895); Measles 135 (881); Erysipelas 72 (134); Bacillary Dysentery 5 (46); Pulmonary Tuberculosis 208 (222). Increases—Scarlet Fever 196 (38); Diphtheria 344 (126); Chicken Pox 482 (347); Poliomyelitis 32 (4).

Detail Tables are attached, Nos. 1 to 7.

W. L. JOHNSTON,

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ADELAIDE.

16th July, 1931.